## IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The humidity sensor as clamed in claim 4 4, wherein the lower electrode or the upper electrode predominantly contains platinum.

3. (Currently Amended) The humidity sensor as claimed in claim  $\pm 4$ , wherein the lower electrode comprises a porous body.

4. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate;

a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate; and

The humidity sensor as claimed in claim 1 comprising a heater provided in the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate.

- 5. (Currently Amended) The humidity sensor as claimed in claim 4 4, comprising a temperature measurement resistor provided in the insulating substrate.
- 6. (Original) The humidity sensor as claimed in claim 4, wherein the heater is located directly below the moisture sensitive layer.
- 7. (Original) The humidity sensor as claimed in claim 5, wherein the temperature measurement resistor is located directly below the moisture sensitive layer.
  - 8. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate; and

a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate, and

wherein the The humidity sensor is as claimed in claim 1, adapted for measuring humidity in an atmosphere containing a very small amount of oxygen and containing a reducing gas.

9. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate; and

a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate, and

A humidity sensor according to claim 1, wherein a size of pores in the upper electrode is  $0.5\text{--}20~\mu m$ .

10. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate; and

a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate, and

A humidity sensor according to claim 3, wherein a size of pores in the lower electrode is  $0.5\text{--}20~\mu m$ .

11. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor according to claim 4.4, wherein a size of pores in the moisture sensitive layer is 0.05-0.2  $\mu$ m.

12. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate; and

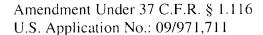
a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate, and

A humidity sensor according to claim 1, wherein particles of ceramic are incorporated in an amount of 1-20 wt% into the upper electrode.

13. (Currently Amended) A humidity sensor comprising:

an insulating substrate; and



a lower electrode, a moisture sensitive layer and an upper electrode successively formed on the insulating substrate,

wherein the lower electrode comprises a noble metal, the upper electrode comprises a noble metal porous body, and the upper electrode is joined to the moisture sensitive layer and a portion of the insulating substrate, and

A humidity sensor according to claim-1, wherein particles of ceramic are incorporated in an amount of 1-20 wt% into the lower electrode.